

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05

AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /126 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3692

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1598

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT PREPCOM: WRAP-UP

REF: USUN 1570

1. SUMMARY: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR 1978 SPECIAL UNGA ON DISARMAMENT CONCLUDED ITS TWO-WEEK SECOND SESSION MAY 20. IN ADDITION TO PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION APPROVED ON MAY 18 (REFTEL), COMMITTEE ALSO MADE DECISIONS ON (A) BACKGROUND PAPERS TO BE PREPARED BY SECRETARIAT (SEPTTEL), (B) SCHEDULING OF THIRD SESSION, AND (C) ARRANGEMENTS FOR INFORMAL INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS. US DEL BELIEVES US INTERESTS WERE SATISFACTORILY
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SERVED, AMID CONTINUING SIGNS OF NON-ALIGNED WILLINGNESS TO TAKE FLEXIBLE AND COOPERATIVE STANDS. SOVIETS, AFTER A LONG AND ONCE AGAIN UNSUCCESSFUL STRUGGLE TO HAVE THE CONVENING OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE (WDC) ACKNOWLEDGED AS A KEY TOPIC FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION, APPEAR TO BE COMING TO TERMS WITH NON-ALIGNED AND WESTERN OBJECTIONS BY DOWNPLAYING THE ISSUE AND BY SEEKING INSTEAD TO REASSERT SOVIET "LEADERSHIP" IN SUBSTANTIVE DISARMAMENT

INITIATIVES. END SUMMARY.

2. AT ITS LAST MEETING MAY 20, SECOND SESSION OF SPECIAL SESSION PREPCOM AGREED TO RECONVENE FORMALLY ON AUGUST 29 BUT TO HOLD INFORMAL MEETINGS BEGINNING A WEEK EARLIER (AUGUST 22). SOMEWHAT VAGUE INTERSESSIONAL ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED BY THE CHAIRMAN CALL FOR EACH REGIONAL GROUP TO DESIGNATE A "LIAISON" DELEGATION AS A CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATIONS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING PROPOSALS FOR AD HOC INFORMAL MEETINGS ON PARTICULAR TOPICS. MANY NON-ALIGNED (AND PRIVATELY SOME WESTERN) DELEGATIONS WERE UNWILLING TO AGREE TO ANY MORE FORMAL ARRANGEMENT, ESPECIALLY WITH ANY SUGGESTION THAT WORK MIGHT BEGIN ON DRAFTING ELEMENTS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION'S FINAL DOCUMENTS. AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED, YUGOSLAVIA PRESSED HARDEST FOR ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN A STEADY DIALOGUE; MEXICO APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MOST PROMINENT AMONG THOSE PREFERRING TO DELAY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS UNTIL AT LEAST THE NEXT UNGA.

3. MOST WESTERN DELEGATIONS FAVORED CONTINUED WORK WITHIN THE WESTERN GROUP, PARTICULARLY AT CCD AND IN NEW YORK, TO IDENTIFY AREAS ON WHICH THE WEST MIGHT TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND OTHER AREAS IN WHICH WESTERN POSITIONS MIGHT BE CHANGED. SEVERAL WESTERN DELS (NOT INCLUDING US) HAVE AGREED TO PREPARE PAPERS ON A PERSONAL BASIS FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE SUMMER CCD SESSION. AMONG AREAS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO SEVERAL OF OUR ALLIES ARE (A) SECURITY ASSURANCES TO NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES, (B) NON-PROLIFERATION, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR, MEANS OF DEALING WITH MOUNTING DISSATISFACTION WITH CURRENT TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, (C) POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPING MORE FLEXIBLE WESTERN ATTITUDES ON THE QUESTION OF THE REALATIONSHIP

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BETWEEN THE ARMS RACE AND DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, (D) CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL (PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER), (E) REGIONAL DISARMAMENT ACTIVITIES, (F) CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES, (G) MODIFICATIONS IN CCD, PARTICULARLY ABOLITION OF COCHAIRMANSHIP AS MEANS OF OBTAINING FRENCH PARTICIPATION, AND (H) REPORTING, COMPARISON, AND REDUCTION OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES, THERE IS A GENERAL RECOGNITION THAT DEVELOPMENT IN SALT AND IN COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE A CRITICAL INFLUENCE ON THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE SESSION, BUT THAT LITTLE CAN BE DONE (EXCEPT BY US AND USSR) ABOUT THESE QUESTIONS AT THE MOMENT.

4. THE SOVIETS, WORKING LARGELY THROUGH THE POLISH DELEGATION, HELD UP AGREEMENT ON THE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN AN EFFORT TO GET "PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONVENING OF A WDC" OR SIMILAR LANGUAGE AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. THEIR EFFORT, HOWEVER, SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MORE PROLONGED THAN INTENSE. THEY DID NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, STRESS THEIR POSITION PUBLICLY, AND THEY MADE NO ATTEMPT TO PRESSURE US OR ANY OTHER WESTERN DELEGATION TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE. BY THE END OF THE

SESSION, THE SOVIET ATTITUDE APPEARED TO HAVE SHIFTED FROM HIGHLIGHTING WDC TO RECALLING THE FULL RANGE OF SOVIET DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THEIR 1976 MEMORANDUM, SUGGESTING THAT THE SOVIETS NOW WANT TO STAKE OUT THESE PROPOSALS AS TOPICS FOR ACTION AT THE SESSION. THE SOVIETS ARE CERTAIN TO CONTINUE PUSHING THEIR WDC PROPOSAL BUT IT APPEARS THAT IT WILL NOT BE THEIR ONLY OR EVEN PRIMARY FOCUS OF EFFORTS BETWEEN NOW AND THE CONVENING OF THE SPECIAL SESSION.

5. AS REGARDS PREPARATION OF DRAFT DOCUMENTS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION, THE NON-ALIGNED CONTINUE TO HAVE THE INITIATIVE. SRI LANKA CIRCULATED THE NON-ALIGNED WORKING PAPER (USUN 1069) AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT TO ALL OTHER DELEGATIONS. IN ADDITION, MEXICO ON CLOSING DAY CIRCULATED A PAPER OUTLINING ITS VIEWS ON THE POSSIBLE CONTENT OF THE DECLARATION ON DISARMAMENT. SEVERAL WESTERN STATES, AS NOTED ABOVE, ARE ALSO PLANNING TO DRAFT A NUMBER OF WORKING PAPERS OVER THE SUMMER. WE BELIEVE THAT A PRINCIPAL

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OBJECTIVE OF EFFORTS IN THE DEPARTMENT IN THE NEXT MONTHS MIGHT BE TO BEGIN TO FORMULATE OUR OWN DRAFTS FOR BOTH THE DECLARATION AND THE PROGRAM OF ACTION.

LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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